

13th December 1923]

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ That does not answer my question, Sir. My question is within the peculiar knowledge of the hon. the Leader of the House and nobody else. What I want to know, Sir, is whether he, with his present recollection of the event, will tell this House if, in his individual capacity as Finance Member, he consulted formally or informally his colleagues in the Cabinet, especially the Ministers ? ”

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—“ Before the salt tax was certified, Sir, did not the Government of India consult this Government also, as it was reported that they consulted all provincial Governments, as regards their probable attitude of what their advice in that matter would be before the certification.”

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—“ I have already told the House, Sir, that I cannot speak with exactitude of conversations of ten months ago, and I have already told the House that I have no recollection—I may be quite wrong—but I have no recollection of any such consultation with the Government of India as is suggested.”

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—“ May I request my hon. Friend to make a statement on this subject to-morrow ? I certainly feel that at this date he may not probably remember.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Does the hon. Member think that probably the hon. the Finance Member’s memory will improve within the next twenty-four hours ? ” (Laughter.)

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—“ I thought he might consult the records, Sir. I did not mean anything so unpsychological as that.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I submit, Sir, that my question still remains unanswered ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I dare say it is. Honourable Members are aware that a Member of Government is not bound to answer when questions are put.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ May I ask the hon. Member to get up and say that he cannot answer ? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member is not bound to get up and say he cannot answer. His silence means (laughter) that.”

## II

### ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF INDUSTRIES.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I have to inform the House that at the election held on the 11th December 1923 the following Members have been elected to be the Council’s representatives on the Board of Industries :—

Diwan Bahadur K. Suryanarayananamurti Nayudu.

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.”

## III

### MOTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The Council will now resume discussion of Motions on matters of general public interest. The first is the Motion of Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar as amended by Mr. P. Siva Rao.”